GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:239
ANSWERED ON:20.10.2008
PERMANENT SOLUTION FOR FLOOD AND DROUGHT
Gangwar Shri Santosh Kumar;Sen Smt. Minati

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the floods affected areas in the country has increased since independence;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has prepared/proposes to prepare action plan for a permanent solution to be recurring problem of floods and drought in various parts of the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the benefits likely to accrue from the said Scheme?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) Based upon the data available from 1953 to 2007, there is no trend in the increase in flood affected areas.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) Flood and drought are natural calamities and cannot be controlled completely. However, their impact can be mitigated by way of suitable structural and non structural measures. Flood Management being a State subject, the schemes for flood control are planned, funded and executed by the State Governments, as per their own priorities, out of their state plans funds which are made available to them through Planning Commission. The Ministry of Water Resources and Central Water Commission formulated a National Perspective Plan (NPP) in 1980 for Water Resources Development. The NPP envisages construction of dam projects for storage of water on various river systems along with interlinking canal systems to transfer water from water surplus areas to water deficit regions. Subsequently, Government of India has prepared

`The National Water Policy-2002`, which has provisions regarding flood control and management and `Drought Prone -Area Development`. Ministry of Agriculture has also prepared a `Contingency Plan - Drought 2000`. Further, Government of India has setup following organizations to look after flood Management.

1. Central Water Commission (CWC)
2. Brahmaputra Board
3. Ganga Flood Control Commission (GFCC)
4. Farakka Barrage Project (FBP)
5. Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC)

In addition, Government of India has set up a National Disaster Mangement Authority (NDMA) under Disaster Mangement Act, 2005 for management of natural calamities, including floods and draught.